



## State of Maryland

### Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene/Planning Council

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., Acting Secretary, DHMH

## MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE/ PL 102-321 PLANNING COUNCIL

### Minutes

May 19, 2015

**Maryland Advisory Council Members:** Sarah Burns, Chair; M. Sue Diehl, Vice Chair; Joshana Goga, Dennis McDowell, Livia Pazourek, Robert M. Pender, Charles Reifsnider, Anita Solomon, John Turner

**Maryland Advisory Council Members Absent:** Gerald Beemer, Richard Blair, Jaimi L. Brown, Mike Finkle, Michele Forzley, Joanne Meekins, Edwin C. Oliver, John Scharf, Sherrie Wilcox

Individuals highlighted as such are resigned members who have not yet been replaced.

**PL 102-321 Council Members Present:** Robert Anderson, Chicquita Crawford, Herb Cromwell, Jan Desper Peters, Dayna Harris, Julie Jerscheid, George Lipman, Cynthia Petion, Michelle Stewart, Crista Taylor, Phoenix Woody

**PL 102-321 Council Members Absent:** Lynn Albizo, T.E. Arthur, Coordinator; Karyn M. Black, Anne Blackfield, Michael Bluestone, Naomi Booker, Morgan Cole, Kate Farinholt, Nancy Feeley, Vira Froehlinger, Ann Geddes, A. Scott Gibson, Sharon Lipford, Dan Martin, Ebele Onwueme, Jacqueline Powell, Linda Raines, Sheryl Sparer

**BHA Staff Present:** Kathleen Rebbert-Franklin, Marian Bland, Erik Roskes, Robin Poponne, Brandee Izquierdo, Hilary Phillips

**Guests and Others:** Jennifer Tuerke, ValueOptions@Maryland; Lauren Lowenstein, Mental Health Association of Maryland; Donna Wells, Maryland Association of Core Service Agencies; Tim Santoni, University of Maryland-Systems Evaluation Center; Jackie Pettis, ValueOptions@Maryland; Clifton Crawford, III

### **INTRODUCTIONS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair, Sarah Burns. Attendees introduced themselves. The draft minutes of the April 21, 2015 meeting were approved. Please note that the approved minutes will be posted on the Behavioral Health Administration's (BHA) Web site at <http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/>. The Maryland Advisory Council's Web page on BHA's Web site is listed on the homepage under "Welcome to the Behavioral Health Administration" under "Mental Health Council".

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Brian Hepburn, Executive Director of the Behavioral Health Administration will retire at the end of June. Cynthia Petion announced the farewell party on June 11<sup>th</sup> at Rice Auditorium, Spring Grove Hospital Center.
- Cynthia Petion, thanked all who participated in the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to develop concepts for the Behavioral Health Plan. The BHA Office of Planning is working with BHA staff to shape the results into strategies and the draft State Plan will be available (along with elements of the Mental Health Block Grant) for Planning Committee review in June. More information will be forthcoming.
- Brandee Izquierdo, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs, announced that a Peer-Provider Conference will take place on June 24<sup>th</sup> that will include peer support specialists and providers. For further information and registration you may email Ms. Izquierdo at [brandee.izquierdo@maryland.gov](mailto:brandee.izquierdo@maryland.gov).
- On Our Own of Maryland's (OOOMD) Annual Conference, "FRIENDS, We'll Be There for You", will take place on June 4-5, 2015 at the Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland. Steve Miccio, CEO of PEOPLE, a peer-run advocacy organization in Poughkeepsie, NY, will be the keynote speaker. Current Council members, Cynthia Petion and Sharon Lipford will receive special awards. For further information, contact OOOMD at 410-646-0262 or 1-800-704-0262, or email: [oomd@onourownmd.org](mailto:oomd@onourownmd.org).
- Gerald Beemer, council member and a member of the Planning Committee, has moved to Pennsylvania and will no longer be able to serve. His colleague, also a Council member, John Turner reported that he misses us and he is doing fine.

### **THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

BHA's Deputy Director, Population-Based Behavioral Health, Kathleen Rebbert-Franklin., provided the following Director's Report:

#### **Update on the Proposed Regulations:**

Proposed regulations for the behavioral health integrated system have been developed and will be submitted next month for Formal Comment and are expected to go into effect on September 1, 2015. There is a heavy reliance on accreditation of programs as part of the state licensing structure to maintain a consistent level of quality. The accreditation process, to be carried out by OHCQ, CARF, and the Joint Commission, is more detailed, more flexible, and can be more easily updated than licensure alone. Communication is key for provider/programs to meet the upcoming deadlines for this process.

Local Addiction Authorities (LAAs) are permitted to use a portion of their grant funding to support the process of preparing providers of substance-related disorder services for accreditation. Also, technical assistance is available to providers through the BHA Web site.

**Release of Information:**

In January, the Public Behavioral Health System became fiscally integrated. Funds for substance-related disorders treatment were removed from the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and given to ValueOptions. Thus, the MCOs lost access to information they utilized to facilitate coordination of care for their patients. This was once available to them (and to parts of other systems such as the courts) through the SMART data system which is no longer in use. ValueOptions has developed a user-friendly release-of-information form to allow MCOs to facilitate clinical care coordination through access to data on substance-related treatment. To date 71% of the ValueOptions members have signed the form. Ms. Rebbert-Franklin will discuss with leadership the challenges of sharing needed information to other state agencies that serve individuals in the Public Behavioral Health System.

**Joint Council Discussion on the Director's Report:**

Herb Cromwell announced that Governor Hogan's budget has restored the 2% cost of living rate for behavioral health providers in Maryland. However, as proposed for January, there will be no increases at this time. There was also partial restoration for physicians who serve clients through Medicaid, moving them from 87% reimbursement to 92% effective July 1, 2015. Additionally, \$2 million was allocated for Response to Heroin Overdose which will include treatment and overdose prevention activities in the community.

At the Combined Council Meeting in April, the Council agreed to send a letter asking the Governor to restore the proposed cuts. However, since most funding has been restored, the letter is no longer necessary.

**PRESENTATION – PRESENTATION: CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING (CIT) – Marian Bland, Clinical Director, BHA and Donna Wells, Director of the Howard County Core Service Agency**

**Statewide**

Marian Bland gave an overview of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) in Maryland. Two and one-half years ago, supplemental funding was made available - \$1.5 million for CIT and \$2 million for Crisis Response – to all jurisdictions, disseminated through the Core Service Agencies. Ms. Bland shared milestones that identified partnerships (between Behavioral Health and law enforcement), training, and outcomes for each jurisdiction. At present, CIT exists in Harford, Baltimore, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, Worcester, Frederick, Wicomico/Somerset counties and Baltimore City. Cecil and Midshore, Allegheny, Prince George's, and Washington counties are in the development stages from offering Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) as part of the training, tactical training, coordinating with law enforcement leadership to attend national conferences, meetings with other counties to identify an appropriate model, to hiring a

coordinator. Garrett, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties are in the process of receiving TA from a State Coordinator of CIT to work through challenges in their locations.

Thus far, 82% of the counties have developed a plan; 94% have identified training needs for CIT; 71% have a curriculum; and 65% have developed a mechanism to track data associated with CIT.

A sub-committee has been formed to examine CIT statewide. The committee will make recommendations for uniform guidelines and for data collection standards.

### **Howard County**

Donna Wells presented more detail on CIT in Howard County. This county has a unified police force rather than separate law enforcement units or offices. This makes it easier to train recruits, as well as more experienced officers, consistently across the board. In 2008, after an incident involving a police shooting of an elderly individual, the Howard County Chief of Police contacted Ms. Wells and attended the national CIT conference in Atlanta that fall. With his leadership and the assistance of a grant from Horizon, CIT was included in classes in the Police Training Division. Through the assistance of state funding, the first 40 trainings took place in 2010. Now two CIT trainings are offered per year. The Department is represented at the national CIT conference and additional classes are offered in subjects including Mental Health First Aid. Classes are always well attended.

Unique to Howard County is the hiring of a mental health liaison who is actually staffed in the police department while funded through the CSA. The Coordinator participates in all aspects such as emergency petitions, service referrals, and frequent callers.

The CIT curriculum itself is a partnership among the CSA, NAMI, who leads an exercise that simulates hearing voices, On Our Own, and the Mental Health Players. One of the most challenging things to learn is that the pacing is different when addressing individuals who may have a mental health crisis. It takes time to lower the tension. Erik Roskes, Director, Office of Forensic services, said that On Our Own's Anti-stigma component is currently developing a workshop that will bring Police and consumers together as co-participants.

Among the successes of the CIT Program are:

- A decrease in injuries and arrests
- Program brings the worlds of public safety and mental health together
- Individuals with mental illness are seen as human beings – humanization
- Classes stay filled

Future plans for Howard County CIT Program include peer involvement on the dispatched teams, partnering with a local judge to gain support for funding an embedded case manager in the court system, and offering CIT to jail staff, sheriffs, and others within the correctional system. Also, in light of the recent crisis at the Columbia mall, an Urgent Care Clinic is being developed.

**THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION – FINAL REPORT**  
**LEGISLATIVE REVIEW – Updates from Community Behavioral Health Association (CBH), Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD),**

The Legislative Session - CBH and MHAMD provided lists of updated actions on proposed legislation for the 2015 session related to mental/behavioral health. Herb Cromwell led discussions focused on the following bills:

- **HB 1109** - Behavioral Health Administration - Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities (DHMH) Product of a BHA workgroup, this supplements last year's merger bill, HB1510, by cleaning up language, eliminating obsolete law, and updating various mental health and substance-related disorder provisions. Passed with amendments
- **SB 174/HB 1262** - Behavioral Health Administration - Behavioral Health Advisory Council (Eckardt/Sample-Hughes et al) This formalizes in statute the integration of current state mental health and substance-related disorder advisory bodies; the language went through a review process by advisory council members.
- **SB 516/HB 745** - Public Health - Overdose Response Program (Klausmeier et al/Bromwell et al) Expands those who can prescribe and dispense naloxone; includes training provisions. See also SB757 (DHMH) concerning delivery of overdose prevention training.
- **SB 281/HB 650** - Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Maryland's Behavioral Health System (Middleton et al/Pena-Melnyk et al) Sets up such a body to study and make recommendations about service capacity, funding needs, service gaps, care coordination and more. An interim report would be due Nov 2015 and a final report by Dec 2016.

Council members may also visit CBH's Web site, [www.mdcbh.org](http://www.mdcbh.org), the Mental Health Association of Maryland's (MHAMD) Web site, <http://www.mhamd.com>, and NAMI's Web site, [www.NAMI.org](http://www.NAMI.org) (click on advocacy and bills) for additional information. MHAMD's Web site has a link if you wish to write to the Governor and show appreciation for his restoring funding to Behavioral Health.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS/UPDATES:**

Kim Bennardi, former Council member, currently serving in the DHMH Office of Appointments, will do a presentation for the June Combined Councils meeting. Please come and bring any questions you may have regarding membership and the Behavioral Health Advisory Council.

The meeting was adjourned.